Murder of Junior Accounts Officer of MTNL

3483. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item published in the 'Nav Bharat Times', New Delhi of 19th November, 1987 to the effect that Shri Navneet Krishnan, Junior Accounts officer, working in Nehru Place Telephone Exchange, New Delhi detected telephone bills amounting to Rs. 13,000 of a Greater Kailash resident, totally written off;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the said Junior Accounts officer was murdered on 17th November, 1987;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether persons responsible for adjusting]writing of the telephone bills have been detected and action taken against them; and

(e) if so. the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. The amount of Rs. 13,000/-has been realised from the subscriber.

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) Shri Krishnan had detected some wrong cancellations of telephone bills on the part of one official working under him. The motive behind the crime and suspects involved are being identified by the Kalkaji Police.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The prime suspect including some others have been arrested and police are further investigating into the case.

Recovery of cultural artefacts

3484. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Wil! the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(al what are the major cultural artefacts their estimated values and their location that have been acquired, purchased or stolen away from the country during the last three years; and

(b) what steps Government have taken so far or intends to take for the return of these artefacts especially in the light ol the recent United Nations General Assembly resolution for the return of such cultural artefacts to their original owners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) It has not been feasible to obtain authentic information about all the articles of cultural importance of Indian origin, their estimated value and their location, that have been acquired, purchased or stolen away from the country during the last three years.

(b) The United Nations General Assembly adopted a Resolution in 1984 on Restitution of Cultural Property to the countries of origin. Several countries, however, abstained during the voting on this Resolution. The Resolution emphasised cooperative efforts between Member States in the preparation of inventories in this behalf and reduction of illicit traffic in cultural property and *inter alia* appealed for bilateral measures for the restitution of such cultural property. However, this convention has not been ratified so far by many countries.

India will, however, continue to pursue the matter through appropriate channels.

Unloading of Eighth Himalayan Car Rally car at Mathura Junction booked for Delhi

3485. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a car was booked from Bombay for Delhi on 8th October. 1987 to participate in the 8th I Himalayan Car Rally, organised in Delhi anti was wrongly unloaded at Mathura Junction for said purpose;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have conducted any inquiry into the matter; if so, what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Knowledge of Hindi by Airhostesses

3486. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a faci that the knowledge of Hindi is not essential for the post of Airhostess in Indian Airlines; and

(b) if so, whether it is not against the Government's policy with regard to propagation of Hindi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The eligibility criteria for the post of Air Hostess effective 28-8-1987 *inter alia* provide that the candidate should have working knowledge of Hindi.

Demand for starting Pune-Ahmedabad Train via Kalyan Diva Vasai

3487. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be plea sed to state;

(a) whether Government are aware of the constant demand by Pune-Travellers Association about Pune-Ahmedabad train via Kalyan Diva Vasai;

(b) if so, when this new train is likely to commence:

(c) what is the dimension of additional amount involved in making necessary arrangements for new Broad Gauge line between Vasni road and Diva to start the passenger traffic on it; and

(d) when it is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Not for the present, Sir.

(c) and (d) Works required to facilitate running of passenger trains were estimated to cost around Rs. 5.50 crore in 86-87. In view of this heavy outlay, required works will be carried out in phases.

Phase-I for strengthening of power supply arrangements has already been approved in 87-88. Balance works will be considered i n 88-89 and later years. No time schedule for completion of these works can be given at this stage.

Non-clearance of football team for pre-olympicl qualifying tournament

3488. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will, the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Football team was not cleared to participate in the pre-Olympic tournament held in Nepal:

(b) if so, what were the reasons therefor particularly when it did not involve any foreign exchange commitment; and

(c) the manner in which our football players are being encouraged to do better in international events?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRl P. V. NARASIMHA RAO); (a) and (b) The participation of lndian Football learn in the pre-Olympic tournament in Nepal was not approved because the standard of our na-tional football team was much below Olympic standard.

(c) The Indian Football Federation has prepared long term coaching and competition plan in order to improve the standard.